



Alaska State Community Service Commission

Annual Report 2004-2005



"Serving Alaskans Together"



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Working together to foster, support, and promote the ethic of service and volunteerism and to engage Alaskans of all ages and backgrounds in tangible, results-oriented community projects.

Alaska State Community Service Commission

550 W. Seventh Avenue, Suite 1770

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

<http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/ascsc/home.htm>



The Office of
Governor Frank H. Murkowski

December 2004

Dear Alaskans:

The Alaska State Community Service Commission is committed to strengthening volunteerism throughout our great state. The commission itself reflects volunteerism through its 15 appointed commissioners, who answered my call and volunteered to support and promote the ethic of service and volunteerism, and to engage Alaskans of all ages and backgrounds in tangible, results oriented community projects.

One of the commission's primary functions is to oversee grants provided to local nonprofit and community agencies, and to run national service programs like AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America. These programs strengthen our communities and provide opportunities for our young people to acquire workplace skills and further career development. I am proud of the commission's accomplishments. They play a vital role in growing Alaska communities and creating a brighter future for all of us.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Frank H. Murkowski".

Frank H. Murkowski
Governor



Loren Leman, Lieutenant Governor

Despite its grandeur, tremendous natural resources and accomplished people, Alaska also has its challenges. We lead the nation in domestic violence and fetal alcohol problems. Unwed pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases and suicides are also way too high. I am thankful for our faith-based and other volunteer communities that are working to address their underlying causes.

We have a moral urgency to provide effective services to Alaskans in need. Services such as housing for the homeless, food for the hungry, aid for disaster victims, alcohol and drug treatment programs for those addicted, counseling for sexual abuse victims and job training for the unemployed-but most of all, friendship. The real answer to many social challenges is to put hope in hearts and a sense of purpose in lives.

I commend the Alaska State Community Service Commission for promoting volunteerism and community service in Alaska. These are an important part of the mission of our Faith-Based & Community Initiatives. Let's celebrate what we have accomplished, but resolve to do even more next year!



Mike Bridges, Chair

This has been an outstanding year of accomplishments by the community service volunteers and programs supported through the Alaska State Community Service Commission (ASCSC). The Commission itself has been particularly successful in obtaining additional funding from the national level to greatly increasing the number of volunteers and expand service programs around Alaska. The mission and vision of ASCSC is to facilitate volunteerism in our

Alaska communities. We do this through resource management provided to agencies and programs that are well suited to coordination, training, and management of people who are willing to provide their own time, energy, and caring in volunteer service. Some of the programs and support organizations ASCSC works with include Nine Star Enterprises, SAGA, Learn and Service, Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, Rural CAP, Green Star, Red Cross, and VISTA. Each of these has many different activities and programs they conduct to apply volunteer and service concepts.

In 2004, ASCSC was able to provide over five (5) million dollars in program funding for education, environmental, community development, and public volunteer activities around the state, over a million more dollars than the previous year. This allowed us to support 138 AmeriCorps full time equivalent volunteers, plus 80, quarter time "education only" volunteers.

ASCSC is made up of 15 volunteers appointed as commissioners by the governor for three-year terms. This is a fantastic group of people willing to donate their time and energy in service to the State of Alaska and our communities. I am proud to be able to work with them in this endeavor.



Elsa Malapit-Sargento, Executive Director

I am extremely proud to present the Alaska State Community Service Commission Annual Report 2004. This report highlights the impact of AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America programs in communities across Alaska. It also contains the ASCSC Fiscal Overview for 2004-2005 and the Commission's 10-Year Highlights of Serving Alaskans Together. On behalf of the ASCSC, I would like to thank the Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development for their outstanding fiscal services and generous support. I would also like to

thank Justine Murray and Marjorie Jeanchild of TASC Acquire International for providing training and technical assistance and Kristine Tecce of Walker & Company for financial management assistance.

As Executive Director, I am blessed to work with a fantastic team of CNCS, ASC, Commissioners, Fiscal Staff, Commission Staff, Program Directors and Members. I thank you all for your enthusiasm, energized leadership and participation. Through your tireless efforts we have established our Commission as the **dynamic pulse** of volunteerism and community service in Alaska. Let us continue the work in good faith, in tribute to the giving spirit of our State and its wonderful people.

The Alaska State Community Service Commission (ASCSC) was created by Governor Walter J. Hickel to establish the state's eligibility to receive AmeriCorps funding. The State Commission is comprised of 15 members appointed by the Governor. The Director of the State CNCS office is an ex-officio member of the Commission. The Executive Director is chosen by the Governor and hired by the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Economic and Community Development. Other Commission staff are selected and hired by the Executive Director in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Economic and Community Development. The composition of a Commission is legally constrained to ensure non-partisanship and political neutrality. The National and Community Service Trust Act and administrative regulations issued in conjunction with it, specify requirements for balance in the Commission.

The Commission functions much like a board of directors of a non-profit organization. Within the parameters mandated by law, the Commission establishes the various goals and objectives for the mission of the organization. They also determine many of the policies and procedures that govern the way the Commission operates. The Commission provides guidance and oversight to the Executive Director and staff, who have day-to-day responsibility to implement those policies. Similar to non-profit boards, the Commission has developed a committee structure to address their various responsibilities and oversee the work of the Commission.

Based on population and funding availability, the Commission recommends formula and competitive applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service. Applications are selected based on their ability to address unmet community needs in education, public safety, disability inclusion, homeland security, faith based and community initiative, environment or other human needs. In the last eight years the Commission has served over 100 Alaskan communities.

The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development houses the Commission and serves as its fiscal agent.



Pictured: Back row: Brian Connors, RurAL CAP Community Director; Second Row: Mac Carter, Commissioner; Ruth Schoenleben, Vice President, Nine Star Enterprises; Chery White, Administrative Assistant, Commission Staff; Dawn Grossmann, Commissioner; Bob Charles, Commissioner; Mike Kenefick, Program Officer, Corporation for Community and National Service; Patti Swenson, Commission Designee; Michelle Casey, Commissioner; Clarisa Gillis, Commissioner; Mike Bridges, Chair of Commission; Nita Greenwell-Madsen, Associate Coordinator, Commission Staff; Lt. Governor Loren Leman; Billie Joe Caldwell, Ex-Officio, Corporate National State Representative; Barbara Stahler, Corporate National State Representative; Front Row: Konnie Shuey, Commissioner; Shannon Kempton, Commissioner; Elaine Dahlgren, Commissioner; and Elsa Sargento, Executive Director.

The Alaska State Community Service Commission meets on a quarterly basis following the CNCS guidelines and Administrative Order 220. In the pursuit of reaching all communities statewide, the quarterly meetings include a training summit for community volunteers. The first of these meetings was held in Fairbanks, Alaska on September 26, 27th, 2004. Lt. Governor Loren Leman attended this summit and presented commemorative pins to the commissioners. The Lt. Governor also provided information about the progress and growth of the Faith Based Community Initiative and how the Alaska State Community Service Commission can work together to provide more volunteerism efforts throughout the State. For more information on the quarterly summits visit the ASCSC website: <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/ascsc/home.htm>



ASCSC Commissioners



Mike Bridges

Chair
Date Appointed: August 25, 2003
Represents: Community Based Organization



Billie Joe Caldwell

Ex-Officio
Date Appointed:
Represents: Corporation for Community and National Service



Michelle Casey

Commissioner
Date Appointed: August 25, 2003
Represents: Community Based Organization



Elaine Dahlgren

Commissioner
Date Appointed: March 10, 1994
Represents: Older Adults Service Program



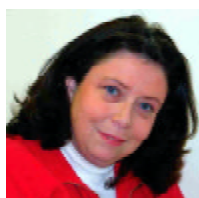
Dawn Grossmann

Commissioner
Date Appointed: April 9, 2003
Represents: Public



Shannon Kempton

Commissioner
Date Appointed: September 13, 2001
Represents: Individuals between 16-25 years



Patti Swenson

Commissioner
Date Appointed: August 21, 2004
Represents: Labor and Workforce Development Designee



Dr. Lajuana Williams

Commissioner
Date Appointed: March 10, 2004
Represents: Education



Denise Morris

Vice Chair
Date Appointed: April 11, 1997
Represents: Alaska Natives/Indian Tribes



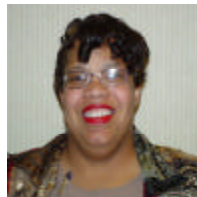
Mac Carter

Commissioner
Date Appointed: August 25, 2003
Represents: Community Based Organization



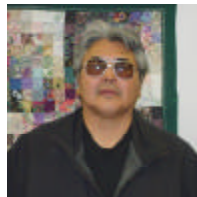
Bob Charles

Commissioner
Date Appointed: November 21, 1995
Represents: Economic Development



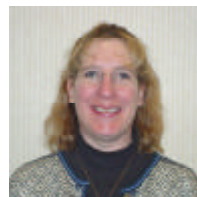
Clarisa Gillis

Commissioner
Date Appointed: March 10, 2004
Represents: Community Based Organization



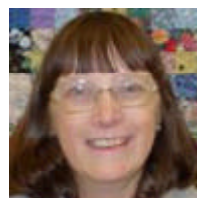
Wilson Justin

Commissioner
Date Appointed: November 16, 1998
Represents: Community Based Organization and Health & Social Services



Konnie Shuey

Commissioner
Date Appointed: January 16, 2004
Represents: Youth Development



Sharon White-Wheeler

Commissioner
Date Appointed: March 10, 1994
Represents: Domestic Volunteer Service Act Program



Greg O'Claray

Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development
Date Appointed: January 29, 2003
Represents: Labor

Commission Staff

Elsa Sargento

Executive Director

Nita Greenwell-Madsen

Associate Coordinator

Chery White

Administrative Assistant

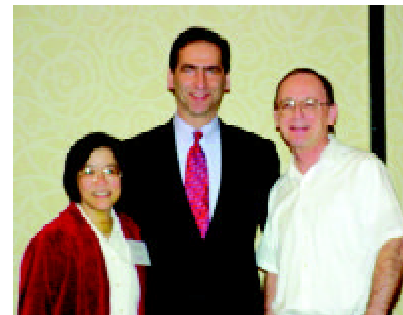
1. The remarkable success of AmeriCorps in Alaska – from the heart of Anchorage to the most remote corners of our great State!
2. Our commitment to innovative outreach and recognition of outstanding volunteers statewide.
3. A spirit of inclusion and cooperation with our fellow community providers.
4. Excellent partnership with our grantees: AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America.
5. Congressional awareness of AmeriCorps and Learn & Serve America impact.
6. The genuine support of our Governor.
7. The effectiveness of our Executive Director on citywide, statewide and national level.
8. The teamwork of our Commissioners, Commission Staff, Fiscal Staff, Program Directors and VISTA.
9. Excellent training and technical assistance provided by CNCS, ASC, TASC and other consultants.
10. ASCSC's emergence as the pulse of Alaskan volunteerism and community service.

Arliss Sturgelewski, the Ellis
Award recipient 2004

First Lady Nancy Murkowski and the First Lady
Volunteer Awardees 2004



Lt. Gov. Leman and Mark and Karen
Kichen, one of the awardees for the
ASCSC Volunteer Award 2004



The INNOVATORS of Commitment & Service

1993 - 1994 Governor Walter Hickel

Executive Director Jim Sinnett
Executive Director Herve Hensley
Executive Director Michelle Anderson

Chair
Chair
Chair

Commissioner Edgar Blatchford
Commissioner Edgar Blatchford
Debra Mack

1994 - 2002 Governor Tony Knowles

Executive Director Judy Salo

Chair
Chair

Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer
Nancy Andes

2002 - Present Governor Frank Murkowski

Executive Director Elsa Sargento

Chair
Chair

Nancy Andes
LTC Mike Bridges

SAGA

SAYC

AmeriCorps members engage Alaskan youth in team based service projects, such as projects of work on public and Native lands, providing opportunities for service learning.

YABAH

AmeriCorps members build homes for Native housing authorities and other construction projects. All members work on obtaining their GEDs and other valuable training to prepare them for future life events.



RurAL CAP

RAVEN-YDA

AmeriCorps members offer a direct approach to assessing community needs, provide resources, leadership skills and improve environmental conditions.

BIRCH

AmeriCorps members build local capacity for addressing health and wellness issues in rural communities.

SIS

In collaboration with the Department of Social Work Programs at UAA, Fairbanks and the School of Nursing at UAA, AmeriCorps Education Award Members are placed with social service agencies to address unmet human needs in Alaska communities.



Nine Star Enterprises

AMAK LITERACY PROJECT

AmeriCorps members provide tutoring and small group instruction to enhance the literacy skills of children, youth, and adults in Anchorage and outlying communities.

DIGITAL DIVIDE OPPORTUNITY PROJECT

AmeriCorps members provide computer software skill development through tutoring and technological literacy with access for children, youth, and adults in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods in communities throughout Alaska.



Impacting Communities

Over 70 communities in Alaska are impacted by AmeriCorps and Learn and Service Programs. Three major Alaska cities, with 11 surrounding communities, five National Park Services, and fifty rural communities, with no other access but by plane or boat.

AMERICORPS AND LEARN & SERVE IN MOTION

- Twenty-five RurAL CAP AmeriCorps members and thirty-five VISTA members serve throughout the urban and rural areas during a project year.
- Seventeen SAGA AmeriCorps members serve throughout a project year in five National Parks, working with United State Forest Services, Juneau Ranger District, the Iditarod Trail and the Department of Transportation.
- Eleven Nine Star Enterprises AmeriCorps Digital Divide members provided computer training and assistance, fifteen AmeriCorps Literacy Program members provided tutoring and other learning services, two Promise Fellows are working through America Promise and Anchorage Youth Development Coalition, and two AmeriCorps VISTAs working in the Anchorage area.



Hours of Service

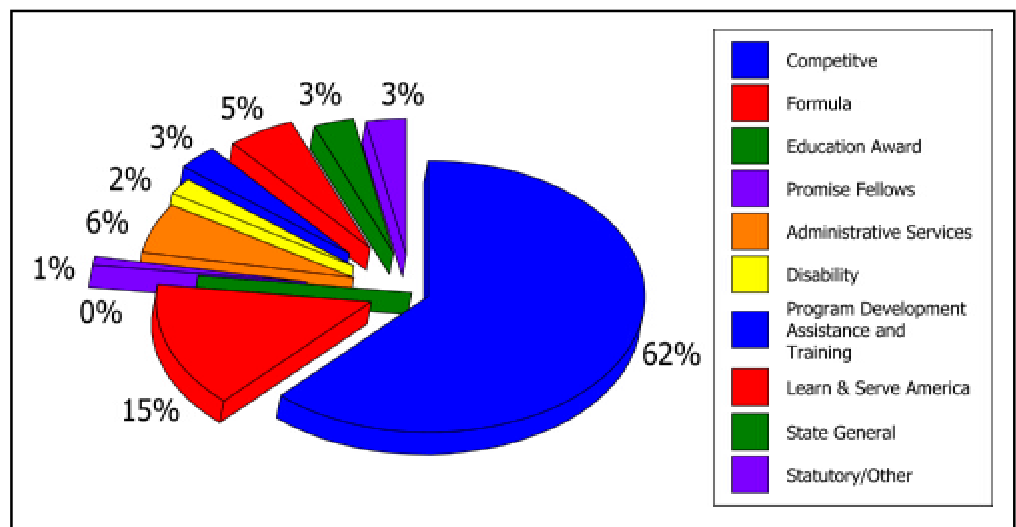
- 122 AmeriCorps members with 84,327 hours of service
- 13,720 other volunteers with 40,575 hours of service
- 762 K-12 Learn & Service America Student Volunteers with 2,209 hours of service
- 113 Community Learn & Service America Adult Volunteers with 328 hours of service

Learn and Serve America

Learn and Serve: Six school districts with projects focusing on environmental preservation and conservation, recycling, student engaging in community assistance, mentoring and tutoring, civic engagement and peer helper projects.



Alaska State Community Service Commission (ASCSC) receives Learn and Serve America Formula funding, AmeriCorps Formula, AmeriCorps Competitive, AmeriCorps Education Award Program, and Promise Fellows funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The Corporation has two types of funding: formula and competitive. For both the formula and the competitive funds ASCSC



is the grantee. ASCSC selects the sub-grant recipients through a Request for Proposal process. The applications undergo a peer review and recommendations are given to the commission for their approval. If the funds are

formula, the commission selects the sub-recipients based on the funding allocations. If funds are competitive, ASCSC forwards the selected applications onto CNCS for their review and selection process.

Other Corporation funding received by ASCSC: Disability Grant, Program Development Assistance and Training Grant, and Administrative Grant.

The federal grants received through CNCS funds are on a three-year grant cycle. A continuation application is required for year two and three.

Other sources of funding: State General Funds, Statutory Designated and Interagency Funds.

Points to Ponder...

- **AmeriCorps Formula, Competitive, Education Award and Promise Fellows Funds** are pass-through grants with all funding going directly to programs.
- **Learn & Serve America Formula Funds** are used to create service learning programs in K-12 schools and 7% of a commission staff's salary.
- **Program Development Assistance Training Funds** (PDAT) are the principal resource available to commissions for enhancing and sustaining high quality AmeriCorps*State and National service programs, building capacity and infrastructure consistent with national standards.
- **Disability Funds** are for the placement and reasonable accommodations for AmeriCorps members with disabilities, and 5% of a commission staff's salary.
- **Administrative Funds** are to support the operations of the commission in implementing the duties as required by the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended (ACT). This is the primary source of funding for commission meetings, commissioner training, and commission staff salaries.
- **State General Funds and Statutory Designated Funds** are used to meet the match requirement for the administrative funds.



GOLD LEVEL**British Petroleum****FRIENDSHIP LEVEL**

Carlile Transportation Systems

Gottstein Family Foundation

Mac Carter

Bill Noll

Holland America

Residential Mortgage

Usibelli Coal Mine

Alaska Sealife Center

Wells Fargo Bank

Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau

Doyon Limited

Laura's Original Designs

Nita Greenwell Madsen

ReMax of Eagle River - Sherri Sapp

Walmart - Wasilla

Other Contributors

Alaska Native Heritage Center

Alaska Railroad Anchorage

Mike Bridges

Dawn Grossmann

Chery White

RurAL CAP

Alyeska Pipeline

International Hostel

Friends of Alaska Library

Mac Carter

Denise Morris

Trade & Development, State of Alaska

Thank You!

The Alaska State Community Service Commission would like to express their utmost gratitude to the above-mentioned sponsors. With their contributions volunteerism was made stronger in Alaska. Through these generous sponsorships, volunteer training, recognition, and volunteer opportunities were provided.

Governor Murkowski and ASCSC invite you to join in Serving Alaskans Together



"Service is never a simple act; it's about sacrifice for others and about accomplishments for ourselves, about reaching out, one person to another, about all our choices gathered together as a country to reach across all our divides."

---Former President George Bush, Sr.

Contact Information

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Chery White, Administrative Assistant (907) 269-4637

Fax (907) 269-5666

Email: Cheryl_White@commerce.state.ak.us

ALASKA STATE COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION

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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

**For more information on grants and other opportunities,
visit our website at: <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/ascsc/home.htm>**